Park (STP). STP is a 100 per cent export oriented scheme for development and export of software using data communication link or in the form of physical export. This also acts as 100 per cent export oriented resource centre for software export units. Under this scheme, the companies can set up their own units. Department of Electronics through Software Technology Park of India, an autonomous registered society has also set up STPs at Pune, Bhubaneshwar Bangalore, Hyderabad, Gandhinagar, Noida and Thiruvananthapuram to provide infrastructure support in terms of communication, core computers and built-up space.

(v) Department of Electronics has launched a project with assistance from the World Bank to study the international software scenario with an objective to identify market globally and to recommend strategies to address these markets.

(c) Software Export during 1991 has been Rs. 330 crores.

Extradition of LTTE terrorists

@1496. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sri Lankan Government have been approached for the extradition of L.T.T.E. terrorists who have been chargesheeted in the murder case of Late Rajiv Gandhi; and

(b) if so, whether the request was made in time and what was the reaction of Sri Lankan Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) The matter of approaching the Sri Lankan Government with a formal request for the extradition of the L.T.T.E. terrorists who have been chargesheeted in the case of assassination of former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, is under Government's active consideration.

Closure of social departments of U.N.O.

1497. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state Government's reaction on the closure of Social Departments of the U.N.O.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): On 1st March, 1992 UNSG consolidated the functions and mandates of the Office of the Director General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, the UN Centre on Transnational Corporation and the Centre for Science and Technology Development. The Government of India have followed these developments closely and hope that they will not adversely affect the UN's commitment in the field of economic and social development, particularly of developing countries.

Assaults on Indian Diplomats abroad

1498. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of assaults on Indian diplomats and embassy officials abroad during the last three years; and

(b) the details of each such incidence and action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) There were seven cases of asaults on Indian Diplomats and officials during the past three years.

@Previously Unstarred Question 661, transferred from 15th July, 1992.

(b) A statement (given below) giving details of each incident is placed on the Table of the House. In each case, appropriate diplomatic/legal action was taken.

Statement

Statement of cases of assault on Indian Diplomats abroad

1. Shri Shyam Kumar, Second Secretary, Embassy of India, Brasilia was assaulted by three armed assailants on July 23, 1989 when they attempted to budgle his apartment Shri Kumar sustained serious injuries which eventually led to his death. The Brasilian authorities arrested two of the persons involved and charged them with murder.

2. The wife of an Attache in the High Commission of India, Islamabad was abducted at a market near her house in Islamabad on November 25, 1990. She was returned to her house after about two hours. She could not identify the abductors.

3. Shri J. F. Ribeiro, Indian Ambassador in Romania was shot and injured by Sikh terrorists in Bucharest on August 20, 1991 when he and his wife were out for a walk. The Romanian security personnel accompanying the Ambassador killed one of the assailants and captured two others. The two arrested assailants were later convicted by a military court and are undergoing imprisonment.

4. Shri D. B. Mathur, an Assistant in the Embassy of India, Tehran was assaulted and detained by the Iranian authorities on December 3, 1991. He was released on December 5 after the case was taken up with the Iranian Foreign office.

5. Shri S. K. Sharma, a Personal Assistant in the High Commission of India, Lagos was assaulted by two armed robbers on December 13, 1991 when he tried to prevent them from burgling his house. The local authorities registered a case but have not been able to apprehend the robbers so far.

6. Shri Sitaram, a Private Secretary in the Embassy of India, Tashkent was assaulted on the night of April 15 when armed intruders entered his house. Local authorities have not been able to trace them so far.

7. Shri Rajesh Mittal, a Counsellor in the High Commission of India, Islamabad was abducted on May 24 morning when he was proceeding to the Embassy. He was released after about 7 hours detention. Shri Mittal suffered serious injuries due to the third degree inflicted on him by the Pakistan Intelligence Agencies, who were responsible for the abduction.

Resumption of secretary level talks between India and Pakistan

1499. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan are resumed again; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan, at their meeting at Rio de Janeiro on 14th June, 1992, agreed, that despite recent setbacks, the bilateral dialogue should be resumed. The dates for the next round of Foreign Secretary level talks are being determined through diplomatic channels.

Permission to Portugal to set up Consulate in Goa

1500. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: